

Rossbrook House

2018-2019 Annual Report

"No child who does not want to be alone, should ever have to be" – Sister MacNamara

Executive Director's Report 2018-19

Thank you to all for keeping the Rossbrook children and youth in your thoughts and actions. Your support through donations and volunteerism resulted in another 365 days of open doors providing a warm and inviting safe place for kids to *belong, play, learn and become...* The bedrock is the strong sense of belonging that young people develop at Rossbrook House. The range of programming, from hosting alternative school programs to providing youth with their first jobs, develops the skills and confidence they need to thrive and become who they are meant to be.

I am pleased to say that all of the many programs and activities that you can view on our website www.rossbrookhouse.ca happened as planned with full slates of participants. Special annual events like: *Cold City, Warm Hearts* our joint venture of winter activities at Fort Whyte Alive, with our friends from IRCOM, Immigrant and Refugee Community Organization

of Manitoba, and *Dreams Take Flight* an amazing day at Disney World sponsored by Air Canada, as well as our in-house *Teddy Bears Picnic* with nurses, doctors and staff from Children's Hospital, rounded out a fantastic year of enriching activities for the kids.

A new opportunity made possible by the St Boniface Hospital Foundation allowed over 25 children from our *Learning Always Program* to attend 4 sessions at the Albrechtsen Research Centre's Youth BioLab. As a result, participants' horizons have widened, and new dreams are being born.

This last year marked the end of an era as the Sisters of the Holy Names of Jesus and Mary's convent on Ross Avenue moved from the house that started Rossbrook House. This was the home of the late Sister Geraldine MacNamara, Sister Lesley Sacouman, Sister Marylyn Gibney, Sister Carol Peloquin and Sister Johanna Jonker. These great women made a powerful impact in the lives of children and youth and left a legacy of true reconciliation and love in the community. The Holy Names gave their house to Rossbrook House in a parting gift of generosity that defines the spirit of their community.

We also bid farewell to the Sisters of Sion represented in Winnipeg by Sister Bernadette O'Reilly, founder of Rising Sun High School and long time co-executive director of Rossbrook House and Sister Margaret Hughes, founder of WiWabigooni, the alternative elementary school program. Their contributions to the Rossbrook House community are also immeasurable and to quote what Sisters Bernadette and Margaret said in the wonderful front page article in the Winnipeg Free Press in April; "After a half-lifetime at one place we are convinced our legacy won't be the programs and the schools we started, but the relationships we've nurtured. We are confident the work at Rossbrook will continue in its own way".

Phil Chiappetta
Executive Director,
Rossbrook House



President's Report

We on the Board of Directors continue to be honored to have the opportunity to work with the children, youth and families who come to Rossbrook House. We are guided, as always, by the words of Sister Geraldine McNamara's vision; "No child who does not want to be alone should ever have to be" and the mission of Rossbrook House to provide "a safe place for children and youth to belong, play, learn and become..."

The past year has been very busy for our dedicated staff, volunteers and the Board of Directors. The Board continues to implement the Strategic Plan developed from the joint planning session with the Rossbrook House Foundation. A major initiative from that session was the plan to work with the Foundation on strengthening our fundraising efforts. The topic of reconciliation was another major development from the session, from which emerged the theme for the **No Child Alone Dinner** held in January.

On the programming side of things, the staff have expanded the **Learning Always** program, setting up the Little Bears "Makoonsag" after-school program for 6 to 8 year olds. Based on both the numbers and enthusiasm, it is a success.

A major event on our calendar each year is the **Pow Wow**. The one held in May was a major success, thanks to the dedication of the staff, the enthusiasm of the children, and the support of the community. Thank you to all who attended and to the community leaders who walked in the Grand Entry with the young dancers from Rossbrook House.

As always we are grateful for the generous support of our many funders. These include individuals, organizations, businesses, labour groups, church groups, sports groups and our three sustaining funders the City of Winnipeg, the Province of Manitoba and the United Way.

Thank you,
Denis Bracken
President, Rossbrook House Board

Board of Directors

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- Vice President**
Brenda Hasiuk
- Past President**
Leslie Galloway
- Treasurer**
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Shannon McAteer

- John Burchill
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Foundation Board of Directors

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Ron Bailey
- Past Chair**
Tom Dooley
- Treasurer**
Jane Quinton
- Secretary**
Jeff Coleman

- Denis Bracken
- Leslie Galloway
- Bruce Henderson
- Katie Krahn
- Jennefer Nepinak



Foundation Chair Report

Rossbrook House Foundation Inc. was established and registered as a Canadian charity by the Canada Revenue Agency in 2006. The sole purpose is to raise and manage the funds necessary to support the vital services which Rossbrook House provides. These services include daily programming, outings and activities for children and youth, 365 days of the year.

Private donations have become *increasingly necessary* to Rossbrook House. In fact, annually we count on the generosity of individuals, families, service clubs, foundations, unions and business organizations to help raise about **60%** of the Rossbrook House budget. To do this we undertake events and seek support annually. The return on your investment in caring includes countless hours of positive programming that would not be otherwise available to children and their families. The smiles on the participants say it all. **To each donor we say; Thank You.**

Your donations help Rossbrook House to be a safe place for children to belong, play, learn and become... And the smiles to continue!

This past January, the Foundation held the **No Child Alone Dinner**, under the leadership of Mary Hanson and a dedicated committee of hard-working volunteers. Over 600 attended the dinner. Thank you to everyone who generously supported this event.

Over the fiscal year 2018-2019 the Foundation was able to gift Rossbrook House with \$294,250 in essential support for programs and operations. The Foundation's fundraising capacity has been expanded with the recent addition of Stephanie Lambert as our Fund Development Coordinator.

I am excited about the challenges ahead and the opportunities to reach out to the Winnipeg community to support the important work for children and youth at Rossbrook House. I hope you will join me.

Thank you,
Ron Bailey
Chair, Rossbrook House Foundation

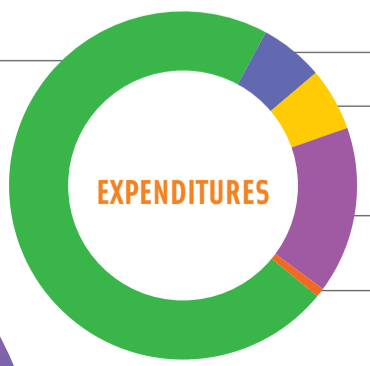
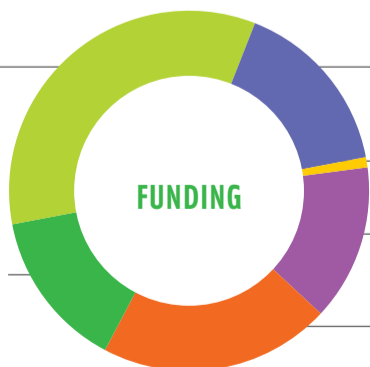


Financial Information

Private Donors, Church Groups, Foundation & Service Clubs
\$622,967 – 34%

United Way of Winnipeg
\$261,947 – 14%

Program Staffing
\$1,267,661 – 72%



- Rossbrook House Foundation **\$294,250 – 16%**
- Other **\$15,447 – 1%**
- City of Winnipeg **\$257,343 – 14%**
- Province of Manitoba **\$381,487 – 21%**

- Buildings **\$104,284 – 6%**
- Administration and Communication **\$102,863 – 6%**
- Programs & Activities **\$273,292 – 16%**
- Gifts to Rossbrook House Foundation **\$14,587 – 1%**

An audited financial statement is available upon request.

ATTENDANCE

